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quick facts on...

Managing Water in South Florida

OCTOBER 2006

The South Florida Water Management District

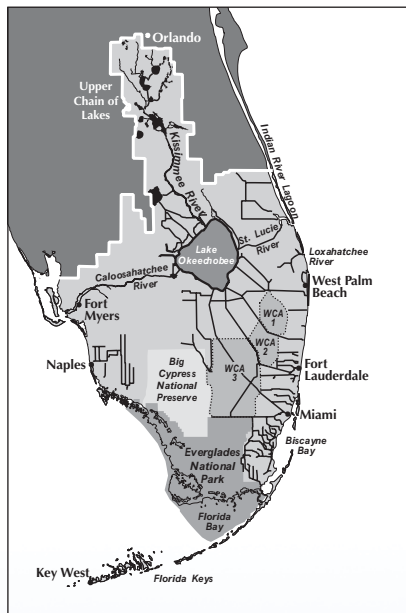
is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.

Our Mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems, and water supply.

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Who We Are & What We Do

We serve 16 counties from Orlando to Key West and from Fort Myers to Fort Lauderdale. Our District encompasses 31% of the state's land area (18,000 sq. miles) and 41% of the population (7.5 million).

We operate the primary flood-control system, the Central and Southern Florida (C&S) Project, which includes more than 2,600 miles of canals and levees, hundreds of water control structures, dozens of pump stations, and numerous other facilities.

We safeguard and expand regional water supplies for people and the environment for today and the future.

We ensure water quality in one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world.

We restore and protect our natural systems, including the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Coastal Estuaries and America's Everglades.

Strategic Priorities

- ✓ Expedite Everglades restoration through completion of *Acceler8* projects
- ✓ Achieve Everglades water quality standards
- ✓ Integrate Kissimmee Watershed management strategies and river restoration
- ✓ Restore the health of Lake Okeechobee
- ✓ Minimize impacts of the Central and Southern Florida system on the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries
- ✓ Refurbish the regional water management system
- ✓ Meet the current and future demands of water users and the environment
- ✓ Retain and recruit a high-quality, diverse workforce



Accelerated restoration efforts are under way to bring environmental benefits to the Everglades ecosystem as soon as possible.

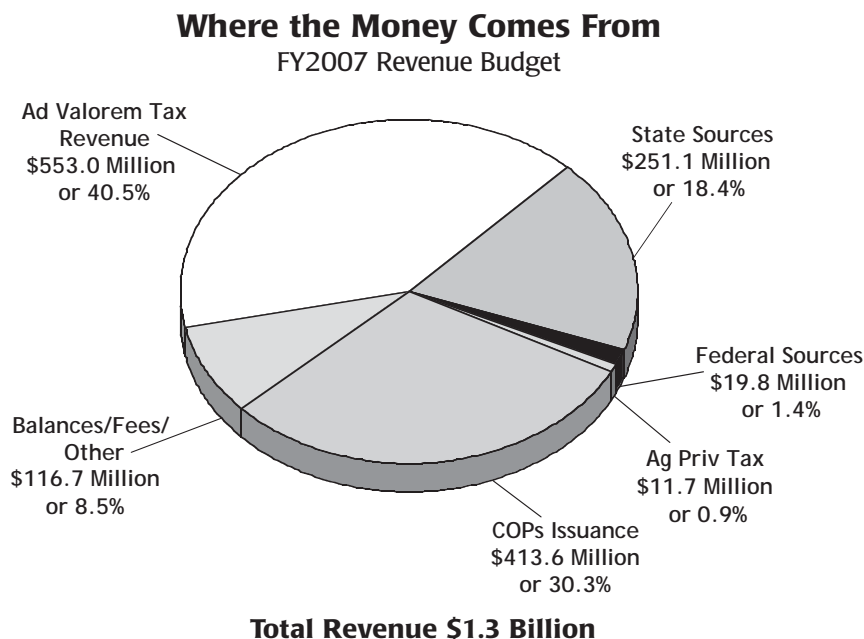
Programs & Goals

To achieve the South Florida Water Management District's broad mission and many mandates, our responsibilities have been organized into 11 programs and goals:

- **Coastal Watersheds** - Restore coastal watersheds and receiving water bodies through local partnerships and applied scientific research; decrease flood damages District-wide through flood management planning
- **Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan** - Restore, preserve and protect South Florida's ecosystem while providing for other water-related needs of the region, including water supply and flood protection
- **District Everglades** - Restore Everglades water quality, hydrology and ecology
- **Kissimmee Watershed** - Restore ecological integrity to the Kissimmee River and its floodplain ecosystem and improve water quality, water supply, natural resources, and flood control level of service in the Kissimmee Watershed
- **Lake Okeechobee** - Improve the health of the Lake Okeechobee ecosystem by improving water quality, reducing or eliminating exotic species and better managing water levels
- **Land Stewardship** - Provide natural resource protection, effective land management and reasonable opportunities for appropriate agricultural use while allowing compatible recreational uses on designated public lands
- **Modeling and Scientific Support** - Provide technically sound modeling and scientific services in support of District water resource programs
- **Operations & Maintenance** - Minimize damage from flooding, provide adequate regional water supply, and protect and restore the environment by optimally operating and maintaining the primary flood control and water supply system
- **Regulation** - Provide fair, consistent and timely review of permit applications in accordance with the adopted rules and criteria of the District, ensure compliance with issued permits, and take enforcement action where necessary
- **Water Supply** - Ensure an adequate supply of water to protect natural systems and to meet all existing and projected reasonable-beneficial uses, while sustaining water resources for future generations
- **Mission Support** - Ensure business and data integrity in compliance with Florida Statutes and Governing Board policy by providing timely and accurate business, human resource, information technology, policy, outreach, and safety expertise within consistent, reliable, streamlined processes

How We Are Funded

District activities are funded by a combination of ad valorem (*property*) taxes, and by other sources such as federal and state revenues and grants. Fiscal Year 2007 revenue sources are shown below:



District Locations

Headquarters

West Palm Beach: (561) 686-8800
or (800) 432-2045 (Florida Only)

Field Stations

Clewiston: (863) 983-1431
Fort Lauderdale: (954) 452-4814
Homestead: (305) 242-5933
Kissimmee: (407) 846-5226
Miami: (305) 513-3420
Okeechobee: (863) 462-5280
West Palm Beach: (561) 791-4100

Service Centers

Broward: (954) 713-3200
Florida Keys: (305) 853-3219 or (800) 464-5067
Ft. Myers/Lower West Coast: (239) 338-2929
or (800) 248-1201
Martin/St. Lucie: (772) 223-2600 or (800) 250-4100
Miami-Dade: (305) 377-7274 or (800) 250-4300
Naples/Big Cypress Basin: (239) 597-1505
Okeechobee: (863) 462-5260 or (800) 250-4200
Orlando: (407) 858-6100 or (800) 250-4250
West Palm Beach: (561) 682-2283 or (800) 432-2045



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